Abhinavdhara and Rehwas Schemes

†1676. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from the district Panchayat of Ujjain through Madhya Pradesh Government under Abhinavdhara Scheme and Rehwas Scheme related to rural housing;

(b) the action being taken by Government in respect of these proposals; and

(c) by when approval would be accorded to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has not received any proposal from the district Panchayat of Ujjain through Madhya Pradesh Government during the current year under Abhinavdhara and Rehwas Scheme(Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development). However, the said Scheme has been discontinued with effect from 1.4.2004.

Impact of Forest Conservation Act on rural development scheme

1677. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government has asked for the Ministry's intervention for getting clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests for implementation of some rural development schemes where the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is involved;

(b) if so, whether any such request has been made by Tamil Nadu Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government on the State's request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Some States including Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have raised the issue of obtaining clearances under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of road works under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

Ministry of Environment and Forests at the time of formulation of PMGSY as a 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme', had stated that in case of involvement

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of forest land for construction of roads, clearance is needed under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, which is statutory. The Ministry had further stated that they have delegated powers to their six Regional Offices and in case all information is complete, clearance can be obtained within a period of six weeks. All State Governments have accordingly been advised by this Ministry on 23rd June, 2003 to process such cases well in time and send reports so that the matter can be taken up with the Ministry of Environment and Forests in case of very substantial delay. No such case has been brought to notice subsequently.

Maintenance/repairing of roads

†1678. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) who have been entrusted the work of repair/maintenance of roads and plantations of trees under Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) the number of years for which such contracts has been given;

(c) the total length of roads of which plantation of trees has been carried out under this scheme; and

(d) the State-wise details of success rate of such tree plantations schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) The road works are executed by State Government Agencies through contracts as per the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Standard Bidding Document (SBD). There is no provision for undertaking repairs under PMGSY. The roads constructed are subjected to a 5 year post construction maintenance as per terms and conditions of the contract and States have to make required budgetary provisions for maintenance. As per the PMGSY Guidelines, planting of fruit bearing and other suitable trees, on both sides of the roads is to be taken up by the State Governments out of their own funds.

(c) and (d) The Tree plantation is carried out by the State Governments out of their own funds. The Ministry does not receive data on the subject.

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